



**Nick J. Rahall, II Appalachian Transportation Institute**  
***Building Jobs Through Transportation***

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**March 29, 2007**

**Mr. Joseph Dettmar, Deputy Director**  
**Surface Transportation Board**  
**395 E Street, S.W.**  
**Washington, DC 20423-0001**

**Dear Mr. Dettmar,**

**We are writing to seek a Motion of Leave for Late Filing in reference to the proceedings concerning *Rail Capacity and Infrastructure Requirements* (Docket Number: EP\_671\_0). Specifically we are requesting ten to fifteen minutes on the docket of the public hearing scheduled for Wednesday April 11, 2007. The notice of the public hearing has just only now come to my attention and we apologize for any inconvenience. We will comply with the deadlines for the submission of written testimony by April 4, 2007.**

**The Nick J. Rahall, II Appalachian Transportation Institute at Marshall University, of which I am the Director, is just one of 10 nationally recognized University Transportation Centers. Additionally we are the only center with a rail component that receives Federal Railroad Administration funding. These activities combined with our National Maritime Enhancement Institute make RTI a truly multi-modal research center covering the full realm of transportation endeavors. RTI and Marshall University played a central role in helping to develop the proposed Heartland Corridor project, and in the process, set a prime example of public/private partnership and coordination.**

**I thank you for your time and consideration on this matter. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at your convenience.**

**Sincerely,**

**Robert H. Plymale, Director**  
**Nick J. Rahall, II Appalachian Transportation**  
**Institute at Marshall University**